

What is claimed is:

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1. An overhead cable comprising:
a tension-bearing core;
a conductive layer arranged at an outer
5 circumference of the core; and
an outermost layer constituted by twisting
together a plurality of segment strands, and having a
spiral groove along the longitudinal direction in the
outer circumferential surface region of each boundary
10 portion of adjoining segment strands, wherein
in the contour of the cross-section of said
outermost layer, each groove comprises an arc-shaped
curve having a predetermined radius R centered about a
vertex of a regular polygon and each ^{segment strand} part between
15 adjoining grooves comprises a straight line or an arc-
shaped curve which is concave with respect to said
straight line.
2. An overhead cable as set forth claim 1, wherein
a diameter d of a circle circumscribing the vertex of the
20 regular polygon is within a range from 12.8 mm to 42.6
mm.
3. An overhead cable as set forth claim 2, wherein
said regular polygon is made within a range from a
regular 12-sided polygon to a regular 24-sided polygon.
- 25 4. An overhead cable as set forth claim 3, wherein
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said arc-shaped curve is concave with respect to the straight line connecting adjoining vertexes of the regular polygon by a maximum depth D and

a ratio D/d between ^{the} maximum depth D and the diameter d of circumscribing the vertexes of the regular polygon is within a range from 0.0 to 0.018.

5. An overhead cable as set forth claim 4, wherein a ratio H/d between a maximum height H from a vertex of said regular polygon to the bottom of said groove and said diameter d is within a range from 0.0045 to 0.0357.

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6. An overhead cable as set forth claim 5, wherein a ratio H/R between said maximum height H and said radius R is within a range from 0.08 to 1.0.

7. An overhead cable as set forth claim 6, wherein said diameter d is within a range from 35 mm to 38 mm, the number of said segment strands is 12, and said ratio H/R is less than 0.2.

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8. An overhead cable as set forth claim 6, wherein said diameter d is within a range from 35 mm to 38 mm, the number of said segment strands is 20 and said ratio H/R is less than 0.6.

9. An overhead cable as set forth claim 6, wherein said diameter d is within a range from 32 mm to 34 mm, the number of said segment strands is 16 and said ratio H/R is less than 0.4.

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10. An overhead cable as set forth claim 6, wherein said diameter d is within a range from 27 mm to 29 mm, the number of the segment strands is 14 and said ratio ^{H/R}₁ is less than 0.2.

5 11. An overhead cable as set forth claim 6, wherein said diameter d is within a range from 21 mm to 23 mm, the number of said segment strands is 14 and the ratio H/R is more than 0.5.

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